

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : James R. Gannoe et al.
Serial No. : TBD
Filed : November 6, 2001
Title : APPARATUS AND METHODS FOR CARDIAC SURGERY

Art Unit : 3732
Examiner : P. Philogene

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the
United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed
to: Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on

November 6, 2001

(Date of Deposit)

E. Richard Skula

(Name of applicant, assignee, or Registered Representative)



(Signature)

November 6, 2001

(Date of Signature)

Honorable Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

This is a Preliminary Amendment for the Divisional Patent Application filed on
eventdate herewith which is a Divisional of prior pending application Serial No. 09/492,558
filed on January 27, 2000. Please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

In the Claims:

Please cancel without prejudice Claims 1-19.

0993175-1060
"STEF" 0901